

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01    PRETOR 05041 281434Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
/064 W

-----125943 282220Z /73

R 281400Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2308  
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
AMCONSUL DURBAN  
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 5041

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PGOV, SF  
SUBJECT: ACTING PRESIDENT WILL NOT SEEK STATE PRESIDENCY

REF: PRETORIA 4942

ACTING PRESIDENT MARAIS VILJOEN IS NOT EXPECTED TO SEEK THE PERMANENT POSITION OF STATE PRESIDENT, ACCORDING TO A WEEKEND REPORT IN THE AFRIKAANS PRESS. FRIENDS OF VILJOEN REPORTEDLY DESCRIBE HIM AS CONTENT WITH HIS PRESENT POSITION AS PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE. SINCE VILJOEN WAS THE LEADING CANDIDATE TO SUCCEED THE DECEASED NICOLAAS DIEDERICH, HIS DECISION TO REMOVE HIMSELF FROM THE RUNNING, IF TRUE, IS CONSIDERED A SURPRISE. "DIE TRANSVALER" REPORTS THAT THE LOGICAL CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY IS NOW SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION LOUWENS MULLER. THE PAPER INDICATES THAT OTHER UNNAMED SENIOR CABINET MINISTERS HAVE BEEN MENTIONED FOR THE JOB, AND BELIEVES IT UNLIKELY THAT THE MAN ELECTED WILL BE SOMEONE COMPLETELY OUT OF POLITICS.  
EDMONDSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENT, DEATHS, ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE, REORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PRETOR05041  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780351-0854  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PRETORIA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780817/aaaaaodt.tel  
**Line Count:** 47  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 772b635a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 1  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 PRETORIA 4942  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1601857  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ACTING PRESIDENT WILL NOT SEEK STATE PRESIDENCY  
**TAGS:** PGOV, SF, (VILJOEN, MARAIS), (DIEDERICH, NICOLAAS)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/772b635a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014